

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to contain a paragraph reciting incorporation by reference of the sequence listing submitted on compact discs.

Claims 2-28, 30-41, 44, 46-47, 49-53, 55-57, 68-72 and 75-87 have been canceled without prejudice, and claims 29, 42, 45, 48, 54, 58-61, 66-67 and 74 have been amended. Upon entry of the instant Preliminary Amendment, claims 1, 29, 42, 43, 45, 48, 54, 58-67 and 73-74 will be pending in the application.

Claim 29 has been amended to correct editorial errors. In particular, claim 29 has been amended to recite in step (b) that the method involves determining for the individual the level of expression of at least two genes for which markers are listed in Table 1 if said individual is classified as ER⁻, sporadic; Table 2 if said individual is classified as ER⁻, BRCAl (emphasis added). Claim 42 has been amended similarly. Support for the amendment is found in the specification, e.g., the headings of Tables 1 and 2 at pages 30 and 31, respectively.

Claims 45, 48 and 54 have been amended to depend on claims 43, 45 and 42, respectively.

Claims 58-59 have been amended to correct editorial errors. In particular, claims 58-59 have been amended to recite that the individual is ER⁻, sporadic (emphasis added). Support for the amendment is found in the specification, e.g., the heading of Table 1 at page 30.

Claims 60-61 have been amended to correct editorial errors. In particular, claims 58-59 have been amended to recite that the individual is ER⁻, BRCAl (emphasis added). Support for the amendment is found in the specification, e.g., the heading of Table 2 at page 31.

Claims 66-67 have been amended to correct editorial errors. In particular, claims 58-59 have been amended to recite that said plurality of genes comprises at least two of the genes for which markers are listed in Table 5 (emphasis added). Support for the amendment is found in the specification, e.g., the heading of Table 5 at page 41.

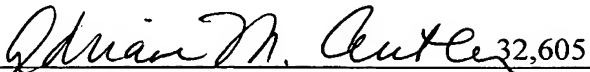
Claim 74 has been amended such that the claim combines the original claims 74, 76, 78, 80 and 82 as a single claim.

No new matter has been added by these amendments.

Entry of the foregoing amendments and consideration of the remarks are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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